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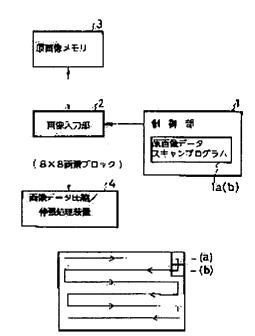
ITO MASASHI TERANISHI ISAO

(54) SCANNING METHOD FOR ORIGINAL IMAGE DATA

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To reduce a difference in original image data between adjacent blocks and to improve compression efficiency for encoding by scanning the blocks of original image data stored in a storage part alternately in a specific direction and its reverse direction.

CONSTITUTION: In the case of inputting a picture element block in each prescribed compression unit from an original image memory 3 to a picture input part 2, an original image is horizontally scanned from a block on the upper left end of the image in the right_direction_in-accordance with an original image data scanning program 1a stored in a control part 1, and when the scanning reaches the right end, the succeeding block line is horizontally scanned from the right end block in the left direction. Since the right direction scanning and left direction scanning are alternately repeated, original picture data reducing a difference between adjacent blocks are outputted from the input part 2 to an image data compressing/extending processor 4 to execute encoding having high compression efficiency.



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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The subject-copy image data scan method characterized by carrying out the scan of the block of the subject-copy image data of the aforementioned storage circles to the opposite direction of the specific direction and the aforementioned specific direction by turns in the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the aforementioned subject-copy image data per block from the storage section in which subject-copy image data were stored, and reading the aforementioned subject-copy image data.

[Claim 2] The subject-copy image data scan method characterized by turning the block of the subject-copy image data of the aforementioned storage circles in the direction of the diagonal line, and carrying out a scan to right and left zigzag a center [the aforementioned diagonal line] in the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the aforementioned subject-copy image data per block from the storage section in which subject-copy image data were stored, and reading the aforementioned subject-copy image data.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention] [0001]

[Industrial Application] this invention relates to the subject-copy image data scan method which can start the subject-copy image data scan method at the time of reading and compressing image data, especially can raise the compressibility of data using the correlation of a picture in the image data compression / extension processor which performs compression/extension of digital static-image data.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] There were image data compression / an extension processor of the JPEG (Joint Photographic Expert Group) method which performs the decryption for coding for carrying out compression transmission of the image data and picture extension as conventional image data compression / extension processor. The image data compression / extension processor of a JPEG method are explained using drawing 6 is the configuration block view of the image data compression / extension processor of a JPEG method.

[0003] The image data compression / extension processor of a JPEG method The coding machine 10 which used DCT as the base, and the decryption machine 20 which used DCT as the base, the memory 32 by the side of the coding machine 10 (a), and the memory by the side of the decryption machine 20 (b) -- 33 -- memory -- (-- a --) -- 32 -- from -- memory -- (-- b --) -- 33 -- compressed data -- transmitting -- a transmission line -- 34 -- quantization -- the time -- using -- having -- quantization -- a table -- 35 -- coding -- a decryption -- the time -- using -- having -- a table -- 36 -- from -- constituting -- having -- ****

[0004] Furthermore, in the coding machine 10, a DCT operation means 11 to perform a DCT (Discrete Cosine Transform) operation, the quantizer 12 to quantize, and the entropy-code-modulation machine 13 which performs entropy code modulation are formed.

[0005] Moreover, in the decryption machine 20, the entropy decryption machine 23 which performs an entropy decryption of compressed data, the quantizer 22 which performs reverse quantization, and an IDCT operation means 21 to perform a reverse DCT (IDCT) operation are established.

[0006] In a transmitting side, operation in image data compression / extension processor inputs a subject-copy image, and performs a DCT operation with the DCT operation means 11 in the coding machine 10, it quantizes using the quantization table 35 by the quantizer 12, the entropy-code-modulation machine 13 performs entropy code modulation (here Huffman coding) using the coding table 36, and a parameter and code data are stored in memory (a) 32. and -- a transmission line -- 34 -- minding -- a transmitting side -- memory -- (-- a --) -- 32 -- from -- a receiving side -- memory -- (-- b --) -- 33 -- a parameter -- code data -- transmitting -- having -- memory -- (-- b --) -- 33 -- storing -- having .

[0007] In a receiving side, a parameter and code data are incorporated in the decryption machine 20. The entropy decryption machine 23 performs an entropy decryption using the coding table 36. Reverse quantization is performed for the decrypted data using the quantization table 35 by the quantizer 22. A reverse DCT (IDCT) operation is performed with the IDCT operation means 21, and a picture is reproduced (December, 1991 issue p160 written by interface "international [of a color static image] standard coding method" Toshiaki Endo - p182 reference).

[0008] Next, the DCT conversion and Huffman coding in the image data compression / extension processor of the above-mentioned composition are explained using <u>drawing 7</u> and <u>drawing 8</u>. The Huffman coding method is used for the method of entropy code modulation in the image data compression / extension processor of a JPEG method. <u>Drawing 7</u> is explanatory drawing of DCT conversion, and <u>drawing 8</u> is explanatory drawing of Huffman coding.

[0009] In the DCT operation means 11 of image data compression / extension processor, the subject-copy image data read per 8x8-pixel block perform a DCT operation, and are changed into DCT conversion data. As shown in <u>drawing 7</u>, the block of subject-copy image data is changed into the array of 8x8 of the difference (AC component) of the average (DC

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component) of 64 pixels, and the average. In the block shown in drawing 7, DC component is 260.

[0010] Next, in the entropy-code-modulation machine 13, it quantizes to the data by which DCT conversion was carried out, and Huffman coding which transposes two or more DCT conversion data to a 2-16-bit bit pattern is performed. About DC component, Huffman coding is performed using the value which lengthened this DC component value (B), i.e., A-B, (difference DC value) from last (pre-block) DC component value (A). since a static image generally has the property that it is rare for the average with an adjoining block to change a lot -- difference -- DC value turns into a value near 0 moreover, difference -- a compression efficiency is better as DC value is small

[0011] Next, the conventional subject-copy image data scan method at the time of incorporating subject-copy image data to the image data compression / extension processor of the above-mentioned composition is concretely explained using drawing 9. Drawing 9 is the configuration block view of the conventional subject-copy image data scan means. The conventional subject-copy image data scan means outputs subject-copy image data to above-mentioned image data compression / extension processor 4 per 8x8 pixel block, and consists of subject-copy image memory 3 which stores subject-copy image data temporarily, the picture input section 2 which reads data from the subject-copy image memory 3, and a control section 1 which directs the turn (scanning method) of reading image data into the picture input section 2. [0012] Moreover, a control section 1 has subject-copy image data scan program 1c, which specified the scanning method of subject-copy image data, starts subject-copy image data scan program 1c, and controls the picture input section 2. [0013] Namely, the subject-copy image data read with the scanner etc. are once stored in the subject-copy image memory 3. A control section 1 starts picture data scan program 1c, and takes out directions to the picture input section 2. the picture input section 2 According to the order of the address specified by picture data scan program 1c, subject-copy image data are incorporated from the subject-copy image memory 3 to image data compression / extension processor for every 8x8-pixel block, and the above-mentioned compression processing is performed.

[0014] Here, the outline of the conventional subject-copy image data scan method specified by picture data scan program 1c is explained using drawing 10. Drawing 10 is explanatory drawing showing the conventional subject-copy image data scan method. As shown in drawing 10, after reading data horizontally from the block at the upper left of a subject-copy image for every block and completing all readings of the block of eye one train, the conventional subject-copy image data scan method reads the block of eye two trains from a left end, and reads it horizontally one by one to the block at the lower right of the lowest train similarly.

[0015] Next, it explains that processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1c in the conventional subject-copy image data scan method flows using drawing 11 and drawing 12. Drawing 11 is explanatory drawing showing the block composition of subject-copy image data which carries out a scan by the conventional subject-copy image data scan method, and drawing 12 is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1c which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of drawing 11 using the conventional subject-copy image data scan method. In addition, by drawing 11 and drawing 12, subject-copy image data shall consist of blocks Bi and j (1 <=i<=m, 1 <=j<=n) of an mxn individual, and the block counts m and n are explained as what is set up beforehand. [0016] The block counts m and n are read first (100), and 1 is substituted for the conventional subject-copy image data scan method at i (102). Next, 1 is substituted for j (110) and they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (120), 1 is added to j (122), j is compared with n (124), when j is below n, it returns to processing 120 and reading of a block is repeated. On the other hand, in processing 124, j adds 1 to i, when larger than n (130), and if it returns to processing 110, reading of the following block line is repeated and i becomes large from m when i is below m, the scanning and processing of subject-copy image data will be ended.

[0017]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] however, by the above-mentioned conventional picture data scan method As shown in drawing 10, since the block at the right end of a certain train (e) and the block at the left end of the following train (f) do not adjoin, they do not have a correlation. the difference which lengthened DC value of a block (f) from DC value of a block (e) -- DC value did not turn into a small value, but since the phenomenon in which a correlation is lost appeared whenever the scan of one train moreover finishes, there was a trouble that the compression efficiency of image data will fall

[0018] In view of the above-mentioned actual condition, it succeeded in this invention, and it relates to the subject-copy image data scan method which can raise the compression efficiency of image data by reading the block which always adjoined using the correlation of a picture.

[0019]

[Means for Solving the Problem] Invention according to claim 1 for solving the trouble of the above-mentioned conventional example is characterized by carrying out the scan of the block of the subject-copy image data of the

aforementioned storage circles to the opposite direction of the specific direction and the aforementioned specific direction by turns in the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the aforementioned subject-copy image data per block from the storage section in which subject-copy image data were stored, and reading the aforementioned subject-copy image data.

[0020] Invention according to claim 2 for solving the trouble of the above-mentioned conventional example is characterized by to turn the block of the subject-copy image data of the aforementioned storage circles in the direction of the diagonal line, and to carry out a scan to right and left zigzag a center [the aforementioned diagonal line] in the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the aforementioned subject-copy image data per block from the storage section in which subject-copy image data were stored, and reading the aforementioned subject-copy image data.

[0021]

[Function] Since it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles to the specific direction and its opposite direction by turns, and reading subject-copy image data per block according to invention according to claim 1 An adjoining block can be read continuously, it is between contiguity blocks, and since the difference of subject-copy image data is small, the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method can be raised.

[0022] Since it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of turning the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles in the direction of the diagonal line, it carrying out a scan to right and left zigzag a center [the diagonal line], and reading subject-copy image data per block according to invention according to claim 2 An adjoining block can be read continuously, it is between contiguity blocks, and since the difference of subject-copy image data is small, the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method can be raised.

[0023]

[Example] It explains referring to a drawing about one example of this invention. <u>Drawing 1</u> is the configuration block view of the subject-copy image data scan means for realizing the subject-copy image data scan method concerning one example of this invention. In addition, the same sign is attached and explained about the portion which takes the same composition as <u>drawing 9</u>.

[0024] As the subject-copy image data scan means of this example is shown in <u>drawing 1</u>, as the same portion as the conventional composition A control section 1, It consists of the picture input section 2 and subject-copy image memory (storage section) 3. Unlike the conventional subject-copy image data scan program 1c shown in <u>drawing 9</u>, as a feature portion of this example, the subject-copy image data scan programs 1a and 1b are the programs to which the scanning and processing shown in <u>drawing 2</u> or <u>drawing 3</u> are made to carry out.

[0025] Since each part of the subject-copy image data scan means of this example is the same as that of the conventional subject-copy image data scan means shown in <u>drawing 9</u> almost, processing by the subject-copy image data scan programs 1a and 1b which are the feature portions of this example is carried out to explaining preponderantly, and an intermediary omits explanation into other portions. In addition, <u>8x8-pixel</u> Grock read in the picture input section 2 is incorporated by the image data compression / extension processor shown in <u>drawing 6</u>.

[0026] Next, before explaining concretely about the subject-copy image data scan programs 1a and 1b of this example, the outline of the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example is explained using drawing 2 and 3. Drawing 2 is explanatory drawing showing the subject-copy image data scan method (the subject-copy image data scan program 1a, and drawing 3 is explanatory drawing showing the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example) by subject-copy image data scan program 1b.

[0027] First, without being intermittent in an adjoining block, as shown in <u>drawing 2</u> and 3, the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example read a 8x8-pixel block in succession altogether, and go:

[0028] Moreover, although it succeeds in compression/extension processing with the image data compression / extension processor shown in <u>drawing 6</u>, it is necessary to write the image data obtained by the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example in the elongated image data 1st and the image memory which displays per block in the same order as the order of a scan of the 2nd example. Now, the picture before compression and the picture of the same composition can be acquired.

[0029] As shown in <u>drawing 2</u>, the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example Make 8x8 pixels into 1 block, and the picture input means 2 is horizontal per block, on the other hand, carry out the scan of the image data in the subject-copy image memory 3 to ** (right in drawing), and subject-copy image data are read. If it finishes reading a

horizontal block next, as it is, will move perpendicularly (down in drawing) by 1 block, and it is horizontal, and will carry out a scan to an opposite direction (left in drawing), and subject-copy image data will be read. Furthermore, if it finishes reading a horizontal block, as it is, it will move perpendicularly (down in drawing) by 1 block, and it is horizontal, and on the other hand, a scan will be carried out to ** (right in drawing), and subject-copy image data will be read. The processing after this serves as a repeat of the above-mentioned processing.

[0030] if it explains concretely using <u>drawing 11</u> -- the block (Bi and j) of subject-copy image data -- B -- 1 and 1B -- 1 and 2B -- 1, 3, --, B1 and n If a scan is carried out B-2, n, B-2, n-1, --, B-2, and 1 a scan -- carrying out -- further -- B₅--, 3 and 1B -- 3 and 2B -- 3, 3, --, B3 and n if a scan is carried out and the number of the blocks of the last stage is even (m : even number) -- Bm, n, Bm, n-1, --, Bm, and 1 A scan is carried out. [next,]

[0031] Since according to the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example a scan is carried out so that the block (a) and block (b) with which drawing 2 adjoins may be read continuously for example the difference of DC component which lengthened DC component of a block (b) from DC component of a block (a) at the time of DC Huffman coding -- a value -- a small value -- it can carry out -- therefore, the difference of the DC component, since it can encode with a value The amount of data for compression can be stopped and it is effective in the ability to raise the compression efficiency of the static-image data of a JPEG method.

[0032] In addition, although it is made to perform a horizontal scan to the forward direction and an opposite direction by turns on the basis of a horizontal scan by the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example, you may be made to perform a vertical scan to the forward direction and an opposite direction by turns on the basis of a vertical scan. [0033] As shown in drawing 3, the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example makes 8x8 pixels 1 block for the image data in the subject-copy image memory 3, and the picture input means 2 reads subject-copy image data in the upper left in drawing focusing on the diagonal line towards the direction of the diagonal line at right and left in a block unit, while [lower right / in drawing / scan / zigzag].

[0034] if it explains concretely using drawing 11 -- the block (Bi and j) of subject-copy image data -- B -- 1 and 1B -- 1, 2, B-2, 1, and B -- 3, 1, B-2, 2, and B -- 1 and 3B -- 1, 4, --, Bm-1, n, Bm, n-1, Bm, and n A scan is carried out in order. [0035] Since according to the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example a scan is carried out so that the block (c) and block (d) with which drawing 3 adjoins may be read continuously for example the difference of DC component which lengthened DC component of a block (d) from DC component of a block (c) at the time of DC Huffman coding -- a value -- a small value -- it can carry out -- therefore, the difference of the DC component, since it can encode with a value The amount of data for compression can be stopped and it is effective in the ability to raise the compression efficiency of the static-image data of a JPEG method.

[0036] Next, the content of processing of the subject-copy image data scan program which realizes the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example is explained. First, it explains that processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1a in the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example flows using drawing 4 and drawing 11. Drawing 4 is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1a which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of drawing 11 using the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example. In addition, drawing 4 explains the block counts m and n as usual as what is set up beforehand.

[0037] As shown in drawing 4, the block counts m and n are read first (200), and 1 is substituted for the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example at i (202). Next, as processing which carries out a scan rightward, 1 is substituted for j (210) and they are Blocks Bi and j. It judges whether j is larger than n (224), it reads (220) and 1 is added to j (222), when j is below n, it returns to processing 220 and the scan to the right is repeated, and j adds 1 to i, when larger than n (230).

[0038] And it judges whether i is larger than m (232), i ends the scanning and processing of subject-copy image data, when larger than m, n is substituted for j as processing which carries out a scan leftward when i is below m (240), and they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (250) and 1 is subtracted from j (252). Next, it judges whether j is smaller than 1 (254), and if it returns to processing 250, a leftward scan is repeated and j becomes small from 1 when j is one or more, 1 will be added to i (260). And it judges whether i is larger than m (262), when i is below m, it returns to processing 210 and the scan of the right of the following block line is performed, and i ends the scanning and processing of subject-copy image data, when larger than m.

[0039] Next, it explains that processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1b in the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example flows using <u>drawing 5</u> and <u>drawing 11</u>. <u>Drawing 5</u> is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1b which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of <u>drawing 11</u> using the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example. In addition, <u>drawing 5</u> explains the block

counts m and n as usual as what is set up beforehand.

[0040] First, the block counts m and n are read (300), 1 is substituted for the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example at i and j (302), and they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (304). Next, when 1 is added to j (310), j is compared with n as processing which carries out 1 block scan rightward (312) and j is below n, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (314).

[0041] Next, judge whether the value of i is 1 (316), and when i is 1 As processing which carries out a scan in the direction of the lower left, add 1 to i, subtract 1 from j (320), compare i with m (322), and when i is below m When j is furthermore compared with 1 (324) and j is one or more, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (326), it returns to processing 320, and the scan to the direction of the lower left is repeated.

[0042] In addition, it moves to the processing which subtracts i to 1 since it is the case where a scanning position reaches [i] the soffit of subject-copy image data in processing 322 when larger than m, adds 1 to j, returns a scanning (328) position, flies to processing 310, and carries out 1 block scan rightward.

[0043] Moreover, it moves to the processing which subtracts i to 1 since it is the case where a scanning position arrives at [j] the left end of subject-copy image data in processing 324 when smaller than 1, adds 1 to j, returns a scanning (329) position, flies to processing 340, and carries out 1 block scan to down.

[0044] And in processing 316, when i is not 1 As processing which carries out a scan in the direction of the upper right, subtract 1 from i and 1 is added to j (330). When i is compared with 1 (332), j is further compared with n when i is one or more (334), and j is below n, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (336), it returns to processing 330, and the scan to the direction of the upper right is repeated.

[0045] In addition, in processing 332, since i is the case where a scanning position reaches the upper limit of subject-copy image data when smaller than 1, it moves to the processing which adds 1 to i, subtracts 1 from j, returns a scanning (338) position, flies to processing 310, and carries out 1 block scan rightward.

[0046] Moreover, in processing 334, since j is the case where a scanning position arrives at the right end of subject-copy image data when larger than n, it moves to the processing which adds 1 to i, subtracts 1 from j, returns a scanning (339) position, flies to processing 340, and carries out 1 block scan to down.

[0047] In processing 312 j and when larger than n Since it is the case where a scanning position arrives at the right end of subject-copy image data, as processing which subtracts 1 from j, returns a scanning (313) position, and next carries out 1 block scan to down 1 is added to i (340), i is compared with m (342), and i ends the scanning and processing of subject-copy image data, when larger than m.

[0048] On the other hand, when i is below m in processing 342, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (344), when j is 1, it flies to processing 330, and it moves to the processing which moves to the processing which carries out a scan in the direction of the upper right, flies to processing 320 when j is not 1, and carries out a scan in the direction of the lower left.

[0049] the time of DC Huffman coding in compression process since according to the subject-copy image data scan method of this example the contiguity block with a correlation is continuously read by the scanning method shown in drawing 2 and drawing 3 and the JPEG method is made to perform compression processing -- the difference of DC component -- since a value is made to a small value, it is effective in the ability to be able to raise a compression efficiency [0050]

[Effect of the Invention] Since it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles to the specific direction and its opposite direction by turns, and reading subject-copy image data per block according to invention according to claim 1 An adjoining block can be read continuously and it is effective in the ability to raise [are between contiguity blocks, and] the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method, since the difference of subject-copy image data is small.

[0051] Since it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of turning the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles in the direction of the diagonal line, it carrying out a scan to right and left zigzag a center [the diagonal line], and reading subject-copy image data per block according to invention according to claim 2 An adjoining block can be read continuously and it is effective in the ability to raise [are between contiguity blocks, and] the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method, since the difference of subject-copy image data is small.

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TECHNICAL FIELD

[Industrial Application] this invention relates to the subject-copy image data scan method which can start the subject-copy image data scan method at the time of reading and compressing image data, especially can raise the compressibility of data using the correlation of a picture in the image data compression / extension processor which performs compression/extension of digital static-image data.

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EFFECT OF THE INVENTION

[Effect of the Invention] In invention according to claim 1, it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles to the specific direction and its opposite direction by turns, and reading subject-copy image data per block. Therefore, an adjoining block can be read continuously and it is effective in the ability to raise [are between contiguity blocks, and] the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method, since the difference of subject-copy image data is small.

[0051] In invention according to claim 2, it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of turning the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles in the direction of the diagonal line, it carrying out a scan to right and left zigzag a center [the diagonal line], and reading subject-copy image data per block. Therefore, an adjoining block can be read continuously and it is effective in the ability to raise [are between contiguity blocks, and] the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method, since the difference of subject-copy image data is small.

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TECHNICAL PROBLEM

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] however, by the above-mentioned conventional picture data scan method As shown in drawing 10, since the block at the right end of a certain train (e) and the block at the left end of the following train (f) do not adjoin, they do not have a correlation. the difference which lengthened DC value of a block (f) from DC value of a block (e) -- DC value did not turn into a small value, but since the phenomenon in which a correlation is lost appeared whenever the scan of one train moreover finishes, there was a trouble that the compression efficiency of image data will fall

[0018] In view of the above-mentioned actual condition, it succeeded in this invention, and it relates to the subject-copy image data scan method which can raise the compression efficiency of image data by reading the block which always adjoined using the correlation of a picture.

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MEANS

[Means for Solving the Problem] Invention according to claim 1 for solving the trouble of the above-mentioned conventional example is characterized by carrying out the scan of the block of the subject-copy image data of the aforementioned storage circles to the opposite direction of the specific direction and the aforementioned specific direction by turns in the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the aforementioned subject-copy image data per block from the storage section in which subject-copy image data were stored, and reading the aforementioned subject-copy image data.

[0020] Invention according to claim 2 for solving the trouble of the above-mentioned conventional example is characterized by to turn the block of the subject-copy image data of the aforementioned storage circles in the direction of the diagonal line, and to carry out a scan to right and left zigzag a center [the aforementioned diagonal line] in the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the aforementioned subject-copy image data per block from the storage section in which subject-copy image data were stored, and reading the aforementioned subject-copy image data.

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OPERATION

[Function] In invention according to claim 1, it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of carrying out the scan of the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles to the specific direction and its opposite direction by turns, and reading subject-copy image data per block. Therefore, an adjoining block can be read continuously, it is between contiguity blocks, and since the difference of subject-copy image data is small, the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method can be raised.

[0022] In invention according to claim 2, it is considering as the subject-copy image data scan method of turning the block of the subject-copy image data of storage circles in the direction of the diagonal line, it carrying out a scan to right and left zigzag a center [the diagonal line], and reading subject-copy image data per block. Therefore, an adjoining block can be read continuously, it is between contiguity blocks, and since the difference of subject-copy image data is small, the compression efficiency in the case of coding in the picture compression process by the JPEG method can be raised.

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EXAMPLE

[Example] It explains referring to a drawing about one example of this invention. <u>Drawing 1</u> is the configuration block view of the subject-copy image data scan means for realizing the subject-copy image data scan method concerning one example of this invention. In addition, the same sign is attached and explained about the portion which takes the same composition as <u>drawing 9</u>.

[0024] As the subject-copy image data scan means of this example is shown in <u>drawing 1</u>, as the same portion as the conventional composition A control section 1, It consists of the picture input section 2 and subject-copy image memory (storage section) 3. Unlike the conventional subject-copy image data scan program 1c shown in <u>drawing 9</u>, as a feature portion of this example, the subject-copy image data scan programs 1a and 1b are the programs to which the scanning and processing shown in <u>drawing 2</u> or <u>drawing 3</u> are made to carry out.

[0025] Since each part of the subject-copy image data scan means of this example is the same as that of the conventional subject-copy image data scan means shown in <u>drawing 9</u> almost, processing by the subject-copy image data scan programs 1a and 1b which are the feature portions of this example is carried out to explaining preponderantly, and an intermediary omits explanation into other portions. In addition, 8x8-pixel Grock read in the picture input section 2 is incorporated by the image data compression / extension processor shown in <u>drawing 6</u>.

[0026] Next, before explaining concretely about the subject-copy image data scan programs 1a and 1b of this example, the outline of the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example is explained using <u>drawing 2</u> and 3. <u>Drawing 2</u> is explanatory drawing showing the subject-copy image data scan method (the subject-copy image data scan program 1a, and <u>drawing 3</u> is explanatory drawing showing the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example) by subject-copy image data scan program 1b.

[0027] First, without being intermittent in an adjoining block, as shown in <u>drawing 2</u> and 3, the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example read a 8x8-pixel block in succession altogether, and go.

[0028] Moreover, although it succeeds in compression/extension processing with the image data compression / extension processor shown in <u>drawing 6</u>, it is necessary to write the image data obtained by the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example in the elongated image data 1st and the image memory which displays per block in the same order as the order of a scan of the 2nd example. Now, the picture before compression and the picture of the same composition can be acquired.

[0029] As shown in drawing 2, the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example Make 8x8 pixels into 1 block, and the picture input means 2 is horizontal per block, on the other hand, carry out the scan of the image data in the subject-copy image memory 3 to ** (right in drawing), and subject-copy image data are read. If it finishes reading a horizontal block next, as it is, will move perpendicularly (down in drawing) by 1 block, and it is horizontal, and will carry out a scan to an opposite direction (left in drawing), and subject-copy image data will be read. Furthermore, if it finishes reading a horizontal block, as it is, it will move perpendicularly (down in drawing) by 1 block, and it is horizontal, and on the other hand, a scan will be carried out to ** (right in drawing), and subject-copy image data will be read. The processing after this serves as a repeat of the above-mentioned processing.

[0030] if it explains concretely using drawing 11 -- the block (Bi and j) of subject-copy image data -- B -- 1 and 1B -- 1 and 2B -- 1, 3, --, B1 and n If a scan is carried out B-2, n, B-2, n-1, --, B-2, and 1 a scan -- carrying out -- further -- B -- 3 and 1B -- 3 and 2B -- 3, 3, --, B3 and n if a scan is carried out and the number of the blocks of the last stage is even (m : even number) -- Bm, n, Bm, n-1, --, Bm, and 1 A scan is carried out. [next,]

[0031] Since according to the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example a scan is carried out so that the block (a) and block (b) with which drawing 2 adjoins may be read continuously for example the difference of DC component which lengthened DC component of a block (b) from DC component of a block (a) at the time of DC Huffman

Page (15)

coding -- a value -- a small value -- it can carry out -- therefore, the difference of the DC component, since it can encode with a value The amount of data for compression can be stopped and it is effective in the ability to raise the compression efficiency of the static-image data of a JPEG method.

[0032] In addition, although it is made to perform a horizontal scan to the forward direction and an opposite direction by turns on the basis of a horizontal scan by the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example, you may be made to perform a vertical scan to the forward direction and an opposite direction by turns on the basis of a vertical scan. [0033] As shown in drawing 3, the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example makes 8x8 pixels 1 block for the image data in the subject-copy image memory 3, and the picture input means 2 reads subject-copy image data in the upper left in drawing focusing on the diagonal line towards the direction of the diagonal line at right and left in a block unit, while [lower right / in drawing / scan / zigzag].

[0034] if it explains concretely using drawing 11 -- the block (Bi and j) of subject-copy image data -- B -- 1 and 1B -- 1, 2, B-2, 1, and B -- 3, 1, B-2, 2, and B -- 1 and 3B -- 1, 4, --, Bm-1, n, Bm, n-1, Bm, and n A scan is carried out in order. [0035] Since according to the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example a scan is carried out so that the block (c) and block (d) with which drawing 3 adjoins may be read continuously for example the difference of DC component which lengthened DC component of a block (d) from DC component of a block (c) at the time of DC Huffman coding -- a value -- a small value -- it can carry out -- therefore, the difference of the DC component, since it can encode with a value The amount of data for compression can be stopped and it is effective in the ability to raise the compression efficiency of the static-image data of a JPEG method.

[0036] Next, the content of processing of the subject-copy image data scan program which realizes the 1st and the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example is explained. First, it explains that processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1a in the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example flows using <u>drawing 4</u> and <u>drawing 11</u>. <u>Drawing 4</u> is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1a which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of <u>drawing 11</u> using the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example. In addition, <u>drawing 4</u> explains the block counts m and n as usual as what is set up beforehand.

[0037] As shown in drawing 4, the block counts m and n are read first (200), and 1 is substituted for the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example at i (202). Next, as processing which carries out a scan rightward, 1 is substituted for j (210) and they are Blocks Bi and j. It judges whether j is larger than n (224), it reads (220) and 1 is added to j (222), when j is below n, it returns to processing 220 and the scan to the right is repeated, and j adds 1 to i, when larger than n (230).

[0038] And it judges whether i is larger than m (232), i ends the scanning and processing of subject-copy image data, when larger than m, n is substituted for j as processing which carries out a scan leftward when i is below m (240), and they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (250) and 1 is subtracted from j (252). Next, it judges whether j is smaller than 1 (254), and if it returns to processing 250, a leftward scan is repeated and j becomes small from 1 when j is one or more, 1 will be added to i (260). And it judges whether i is larger than m (262), when i is below m, it returns to processing 210 and the scan of the right of the following block line is performed, and i ends the scanning and processing of subject-copy image data, when larger than m.

[0039] Next, it explains that processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1b in the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example flows using <u>drawing 5</u> and <u>drawing 11</u>. <u>Drawing 5</u> is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1b which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of <u>drawing 11</u> using the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example. In addition, <u>drawing 5</u> explains the block counts m and n as usual as what is set up beforehand.

[0040] First, the block counts m and n are read (300), 1 is substituted for the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example at i and j (302), and they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (304). Next, when 1 is added to j (310), j is compared with n as processing which carries out 1 block scan rightward (312) and j is below n, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (314).

[0041] Next, judge whether the value of i is 1 (316), and when i is 1 As processing which carries out a scan in the direction of the lower left, add 1 to i, subtract 1 from j (320), compare i with m (322), and when i is below m When j is furthermore compared with 1 (324) and j is one or more, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (326), it returns to processing 320, and the scan to the direction of the lower left is repeated.

[0042] In addition, it moves to the processing which subtracts i to 1 since it is the case where a scanning position reaches [i] the soffit of subject-copy image data in processing 322 when larger than m, adds 1 to j, returns a scanning (328) position, flies to processing 310, and carries out 1 block scan rightward.

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[0043] Moreover, it moves to the processing which subtracts i to 1 since it is the case where a scanning position arrives at [j] the left end of subject-copy image data in processing 324 when smaller than 1, adds 1 to j, returns a scanning (329) position, flies to processing 340, and carries out 1 block scan to down.

[0044] And in processing 316, when i is not 1 As processing which carries out a scan in the direction of the upper right, subtract 1 from i and 1 is added to j (330). When i is compared with 1 (332), j is further compared with n when i is one or more (334), and j is below n, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (336), it returns to processing 330, and the scan to the direction of the upper right is repeated.

[0045] In addition, in processing 332, since i is the case where a scanning position reaches the upper limit of subject-copy image data when smaller than 1, it moves to the processing which adds 1 to i, subtracts 1 from j, returns a scanning (338) position, flies to processing 310, and carries out 1 block scan rightward.

[0046] Moreover, in processing 334, since j is the case where a scanning position arrives at the right end of subject-copy image data when larger than n, it moves to the processing which adds 1 to i, subtracts 1 from j, returns a scanning (339) position, flies to processing 340, and carries out 1 block scan to down.

[0047] In processing 312 j and when larger than n Since it is the case where a scanning position arrives at the right end of subject-copy image data, as processing which subtracts 1 from j, returns a scanning (313) position, and next carries out 1 block scan to down 1 is added to i (340), i is compared with m (342), and i ends the scanning and processing of subject-copy image data, when larger than m.

[0048] On the other hand, when i is below m in processing 342, they are Blocks Bi and j. It reads (344), when j is 1, it flies to processing 330, and it moves to the processing which moves to the processing which carries out a scan in the direction of the upper right, flies to processing 320 when j is not 1, and carries out a scan in the direction of the lower left.

[0049] the time of DC Huffman coding in compression process since according to the subject-copy image data scan method of this example the contiguity block with a correlation is continuously read by the scanning method shown in drawing 2 and drawing 3 and the JPEG method is made to perform compression processing -- the difference of DC component -- since a value is made to a small value, it is effective in the ability to be able to raise a compression efficiency

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the configuration block view of the subject-copy image data scan means concerning one example of this invention.

[Drawing 2] It is explanatory drawing showing the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example.

[Drawing 3] It is explanatory drawing showing the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example.

[Drawing 4] It is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1a which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of <u>drawing 11</u> using the subject-copy image data scan method of the 1st example.

[Drawing 5] It is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1b which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of <u>drawing 11</u> using the subject-copy image data scan method of the 2nd example.

[Drawing 6] It is the configuration block view of the image data compression / extension processor of a JPEG method.

[Drawing 7] It is explanatory drawing of DCT conversion.

[Drawing 8] It is explanatory drawing of Huffman coding.

[Drawing 9] It is the configuration block view of the conventional subject-copy image data scan means.

[Drawing 10] It is explanatory drawing showing the conventional subject-copy image data scan method.

[Drawing 11] It is explanatory drawing showing the block composition of subject-copy image data which carries out a scan by the conventional subject-copy image data scan method.

[Drawing 12] It is the flow chart view showing the flow of processing of subject-copy image data scan program 1c which carries out the scan of the subject-copy image data of <u>drawing 11</u> using the conventional subject-copy image data scan method.

[Description of Notations]

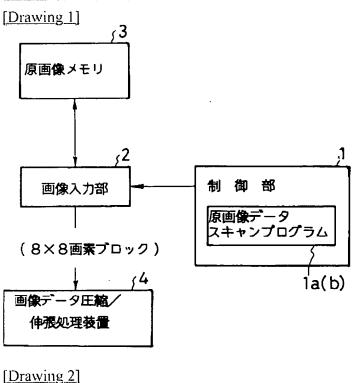
1 -- Control section 1a, 1b, 1c -- Subject-copy image data scan program 2 -- Picture input section, [4 -- Image data compression / extension processor 10 -- Coding machine,] 3 -- Subject-copy image memory [12 -- Quantizer 13 -- entropy-code-modulation machine,] 11 -- DCT operation means [21 -- Reverse DCT operation means 22 -- Quantizer 23 -- Entropy decryption machine 32 -- Memory (a) 33 -- Memory (b) 34 -- Transmission line 35 -- Quantization table 36 -- Coding table] 20 -- Decryption machine

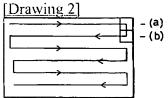
* NOTICES *

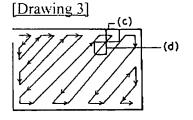
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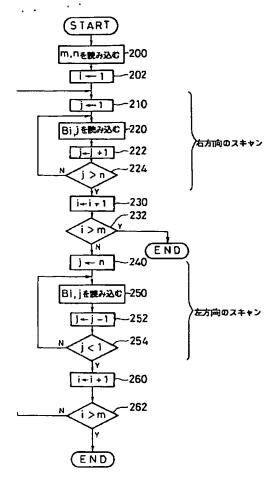
DRAWINGS

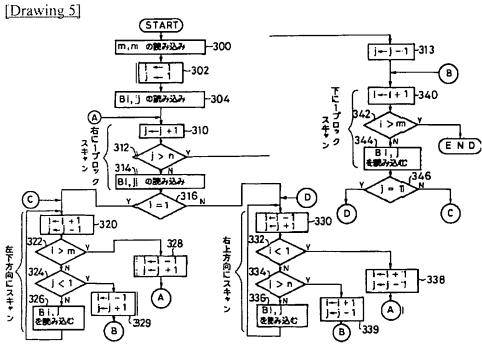




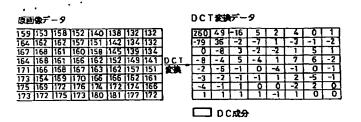


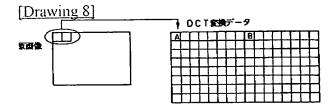
[Drawing 4]



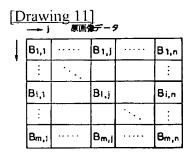


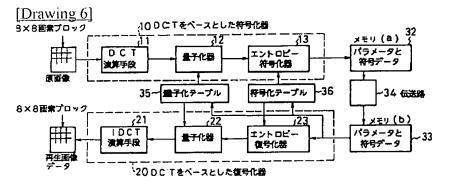
[Drawing 7]



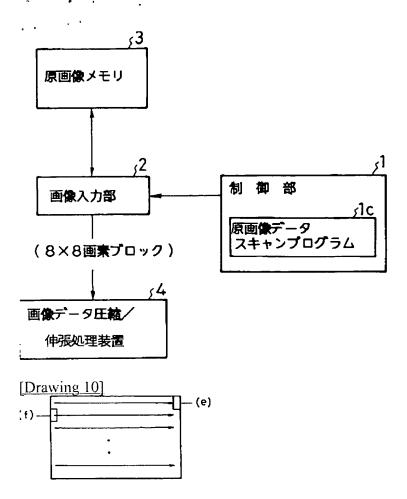


D Cハフマン特号化 A (前回D C) → B (今回D C) → 特号化時のD C

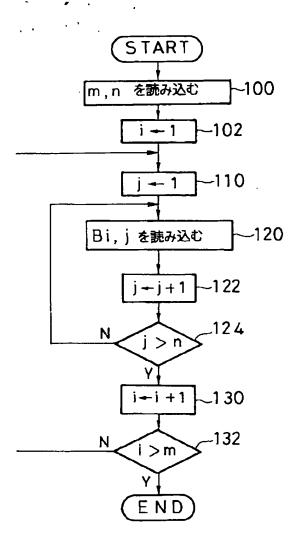




[Drawing 9]



[Drawing 12]



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TITLE: SCANNING METHOD FOR ORIGINAL IMAGE DATA

PUBN-DATE: October 13, 1995

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;H03M007/40

ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To reduce a difference in original image data between adjacent blocks and to improve compression efficiency for encoding by

scanning the blocks of

original image data stored in a storage part alternately in a specific

direction and its reverse direction.

CONSTITUTION: In the case of inputting a picture element block in each

prescribed compression unit from an original image memory 3 to a picture input

part 2, an original image is horizontally scanned from a block on the upper

left end of the image in the right direction in accordance with an original

image data scanning program la stored in a control part 1,

and when the scanning reaches the right end, the succeeding block line is horizontally scanned from the right end block in the left direction. Since the right direction scanning and left direction scanning are alternately repeated, original picture data reducing a difference between adjacent blocks are outputted from the input part 2 to an image data compressing/extending processor 4 to execute encoding having high compression efficiency.

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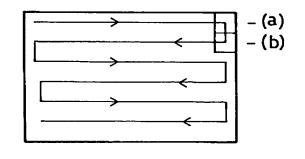
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(54) 【発明の名称】 原画像データスキャン方法

(57)【要約】 (修正有)

【目的】 静止画像データ圧縮におけるハフマン符号化 時の画像の相関関係を利用して、圧縮率を向上させるこ とのできる原画像データスキャン方法を提供する。

【構成】 原画像メモリから圧縮単位の8×8画素のブロックを読み込む際に、制御部1内の原画像データスキャンプログラム1 aに従って、原画像の左上端のブロックから右方向に水平にスキャンし、右端に達したら次のブロックラインは右端のブロックから左方向に水平にスキャンし、右方向スキャンと左方向スキャンとを交互に繰り返す原画像データスキャン方法であり、また、原画像データスキャンプログラム1bに従って、原画像の左上端のブロックから原画像データの対角線方向にその対角線を中心に左右交互にジグザグスキャンする原画像データスキャン方法である。



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 原画像データが格納された記憶部から前記原画像データをブロック単位にスキャンして前記原画像データを読み取る原画像データスキャン方法において、前記記憶部内の原画像データのブロックを特定方向と前記特定方向の逆方向に交互にスキャンすることを特徴とする原画像データスキャン方法。

【請求項2】 原画像データが格納された記憶部から前 記原画像データをブロック単位にスキャンして前記原画 像データを読み取る原画像データスキャン方法におい て、前記記憶部内の原画像データのブロックを対角線方 向に向けて前記対角線を中心に左右にジグザグにスキャ ンすることを特徴とする原画像データスキャン方法。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【産業上の利用分野】本発明は、デジタル静止画像データの圧縮/伸張を行う画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置において、画像データを読み込んで圧縮する際の原画像データスキャン方法に係り、特に画像の相関関係を利用してデータの圧縮率を向上させることができる原画像デー 20 タスキャン方法に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】従来の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置としては、画像データを圧縮伝送するための符号化及び画像伸張のための復号化を行うJPEG(Joint Photographic Expert Group)方式の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置があった。JPEG方式の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置について図6を使って説明する。図6は、JPEG方式の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置の構成ブロック図である。

【0003】JPEG方式の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置は、DCTをベースとした符号化器10と、DCTをベースとした復号化器20と、符号化器10側のメモリ(a)32と、復号化器20側のメモリ(b)33 と、メモリ(a)32からメモリ(b)33へ圧縮データを伝送する伝送路34と、量子化の際に用いられる量子化テーブル35と、符号化・復号化の際に用いられる符号化テーブル36とから構成されている。

【0004】更に、符号化器10内には、DCT (Discrete Cosine Transform) 演算を行うDCT演算手段11と、量子化を行う量子化器12と、エントロピー符号化を行うエントロピー符号化器13とが設けられている。

【0005】また、復号化器20内には、圧縮データのエントロピー復号化を行うエントロピー復号化器23と、逆量子化を行う量子化器22と、逆DCT(IDCT)演算を行うIDCT演算手段21とが設けられている。

【0006】画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置における動 ロック図である。従来の原画像データスキャン手段は、 作は、送信側においては、原画像を入力し、符号化器1 50 上記画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置4に原画像データを

0内のDCT演算手段11でDCT演算を行い、量子化器12で量子化テーブル35を用いて量子化を行い、エントロピー符号化器13で符号化テーブル36を用いてエントロピー符号化(ここではハフマン符号化)を行っ

エントロピー符号化 (ここではハフマン符号化) を行って、メモリ (a) 32にパラメータと符号データを格納する。 そして、伝送路34を介して送信側のメモリ

(a) 32から受信側のメモリ(b) 33~パラメータ と符号データが伝送され、メモリ(b) 33に格納される

10 【0007】受信側では、パラメータと符号データが復 号化器20内に取り込まれ、エントロピー復号化器23 で符号化テーブル36を用いてエントロピー復号化を行 い、復号化されたデータを量子化器22で量子化テーブ ル35を用いて逆量子化を行い、IDCT演算手段21 で逆DCT (IDCT) 演算を行って、画像を再生する ものである(インターフェース「カラー静止画像の国際 標準符号化方式」違藤俊明著 1991年12月号p1 60~p182参照)。

【0008】次に、上記構成の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置におけるDCT変換及びハフマン符号化について図7及び図8を用いて説明する。JPEG方式の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置ではエントロピー符号化の方式は、ハフマン符号化方式を用いている。図7は、DCT変換の説明図であり、図8は、ハフマン符号化の説明図である。

【0009】8×8画素のブロック単位で読み込まれた原画像データは、画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置のDC 下演算手段11において、DCT演算を行ってDCT変 換データに変換される。図7に示すように、原画像デー 30 タのブロックは、64画素の平均値(DC成分)と、平 均値との差分(AC成分)の8×8の配列に変換され る。図7に示したブロックでは、DC成分は260であ る。

【0010】次に、エントロピー符号化器13において、DCT変換されたデータに量子化を行い、複数のDCT変換データを2~16ビットのビットパターンに置き換えるハフマン符号化を行う。DC成分については、前回(前ブロック)のDC成分値(A)から今回のDC成分値(B)を引いた値、すなわちA-B(差分DC値)を使ってハフマン符号化を行う。一般に、静止画像は隣接するブロックとの平均値が大きく変化することが少ないという特性があるため、差分DC値は0に近い値となる。また、差分DC値が小さければ小さいほど圧縮

【0011】次に、上記構成の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置に原画像データを取り込む際の従来の原画像データスキャン方法について、図9を用いて具体的に説明する。図9は、従来の原画像データスキャン手段の構成ブロック図である。従来の原画像データスキャン手段は、

効率が良い。

8×8画素ブロック単位で出力するものであり、原画像 データを一時的に格納しておく原画像メモリ3と、原画 像メモリ3からデータを読み込む画像入力部2と、画像 入力部2に画像データを読み込む順番(スキャン方法) を指示する制御部1とから構成されている。

【0012】また、制御部1は、原画像データのスキャ ン方法を規定した原画像データスキャンプログラム1 c を有し、原画像データスキャンプログラム1 cを起動さ せて画像入力部2を制御するようになっている。

【0013】すなわち、スキャナ等で読み取った原画像 10 問題点があった。 データを、一旦、原画像メモリ3に格納しておき、制御 部1が、画像データスキャンプログラム1cを起動させ て画像入力部2に指示を出し、画像入力部2は、画像デ ータスキャンプログラム1 cによって規定されたアドレ ス順に従って、原画像メモリ3から原画像データを8× 8画素のブロック毎に画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置に 取り込み、上記圧縮処理を行うようになっている。

【0014】ここで、画像データスキャンプログラム1 cによって規定される従来の原画像データスキャン方法 来の原画像データスキャン方法を示す説明図である。従 来の原画像データスキャン方法は、図10に示すよう に、原画像の左上のブロックから水平方向にブロック毎 にデータを読み込むようになっており、1列目のブロッ クの読み込みが全て終了すると、2列目のブロックを左 端から読み込み、同様にして最下列右下のブロックまで **順次水平方向に読み込むようになっていた。**

【0015】次に、従来の原画像データスキャン方法に おける原画像データスキャンプログラム1 cの処理の流 れについて、図11,図12を用いて説明する。図11 は、従来の原画像データスキャン方法でスキャンする原 画像データのブロック構成を示す説明図であり、図12 は、従来の原画像データスキャン方法を用いて図11の 原画像データをスキャンする原画像データスキャンプロ グラム1 cの処理の流れを示すフローチャート図であ る。尚、図11,図12では原画像データがm×n個の ブロックBi,j ($1 \le i \le m$, $1 \le j \le n$)で構成され ているものとし、ブロック数m,nは予め設定されてい るものとして説明している。

【0016】従来の原画像データスキャン方法では、ま ずブロック数m、nを読み込み(100)、iに1を代 入する(102)。次に、jに1を代入し(110)、 ブロックBi,j を読み込み(120)、jに1を加算し (122)、jとnとを比較し(124)、jがn以下 の場合は処理120に戻ってブロックの読み込みを繰り 返す。一方、処理124において、jがnより大きい場 合は、iに1を加算し(130)、iがm以下の場合は 処理110に戻って次のブロックラインの読み込みを操 り返し、iがmより大きくなったら、原画像データのス キャン処理を終了する。

[0017]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、上記従 来の画像データスキャン方法では、図10に示すよう に、ある列の右端のブロック(e)と、次の列の左端の ブロック(f)とは隣接していないために相関関係が無 く、ブロック(e)のDC値からブロック(f)のDC 値を引いた差分DC値が小さい値にならず、しかも1列 のスキャンが終わる毎に相関関係が失われる現象が現れ るため、画像データの圧縮効率が低下してしまうという

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【0018】本発明は上記実情に鑑みて為されたもの で、常に隣接したブロックを読み込んでいくことによ り、画像の相関関係を利用して、画像データの圧縮効率 を向上させることができる原画像データスキャン方法に

[0019]

【課題を解決するための手段】上記従来例の問題点を解 決するための請求項1記載の発明は、原画像データが格 納された記憶部から前記原画像データをブロック単位に の概略について図10を用いて説明する。図10は、従 20 スキャンして前記原画像データを読み取る原画像データ スキャン方法において、前記記憶部内の原画像データの ブロックを特定方向と前記特定方向の逆方向に交互にス キャンすることを特徴としている。

> 【0020】上記従来例の問題点を解決するための請求 項2記載の発明は、原画像データが格納された記憶部か ら前記原画像データをブロック単位にスキャンして前記 原画像データを読み取る原画像データスキャン方法にお いて、前記記憶部内の原画像データのブロックを対角線 方向に向けて前記対角線を中心に左右にジグザグにスキ 30 ャンすることを特徴としている。

[0021]

【作用】請求項1記載の発明によれば、記憶部内の原画 像データのブロックを特定方向とその逆方向に交互にス キャンして原画像データをブロック単位に読み取る原画 像データスキャン方法としているので、隣接しているブ ロックを連続して読み取ることができ、隣接ブロック間 で原画像データの差が小さいためにJPEG方式による 画像圧縮過程での符号化の際の圧縮効率を向上させるこ とができる。

【0022】請求項2記載の発明によれば、記憶部内の 40 原画像データのブロックを対角線方向に向けてその対角 線を中心に左右にジグザグにスキャンして原画像データ をブロック単位に読み取る原画像データスキャン方法と しているので、隣接しているブロックを連続して読み取 ることができ、隣接ブロック間で原画像データの差が小 さいためにJPEG方式による画像圧縮過程での符号化 の際の圧縮効率を向上させることができる。

[0023]

【実施例】本発明の一実施例について図面を参照しなが 50 ら説明する。図1は、本発明の一実施例に係る原画像デ ータスキャン方法を実現するための原画像データスキャ ン手段の構成ブロック図である。 尚、図9と同様の構成 をとる部分については同一の符号を付して説明する。

【0024】本実施例の原画像データスキャン手段は、 図1に示すように、従来の構成と同様な部分として制御 部1と、画像入力部2と、原画像メモリ(記憶部)3と から構成されており、本実施例の特徴部分としては原画 像データスキャンプログラム1a,1bが図9に示した 従来の原画像データスキャンプログラム1cと異なっ て、図2又は図3に示すスキャン処理を行わせるような 10 プログラムとなっている。

【0025】本実施例の原画像データスキャン手段の各 部は、図9に示した従来の原画像データスキャン手段と ほぼ同様であるので、本実施例の特徴部分である原画像 データスキャンプログラム1a, 1bでの処理を重点的 に説明することにし、他の部分につては説明を省略す る。尚、画像入力部2から読み取られた8×8画素のグ ロックは、図6に示した画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置 に取り込まれるものである。

【0026】次に、本実施例の原画像データスキャンプ 20 ログラム1a,1bについて具体的に説明する前に図 2.3を使って第1,第2の実施例の原画像データスキ ャン方法の概略について説明する。 図2は、原画像デー タスキャンプログラム1 aによる原画像データスキャン 方法 (第1の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法)を示 す説明図であり、図3は、原画像データスキャンプログ ラム1 bによる原画像データスキャン方法 (第2の実施 例の原画像データスキャン方法)を示す説明図である。 【0027】まず、第1、第2の実施例の原画像データ スキャン方法は、図2,3に示すように、隣接するブロ 30 ックを断続することなく、全て連続して8×8画素のブ ロックを読み取って行くものである。

【0028】また、第1、第2の実施例の原画像データ スキャン方法で得られた画像データは、図6に示した画 像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置で圧縮/伸張処理が為され るが、伸張した画像データも第1、第2の実施例のスキ ャン順と同じ順でブロック単位に表示を行う画像メモリ に書き込む必要がある。これで、圧縮前の画像と同じ構 成の画像を得ることができる。

【0029】図2に示すように、第1の実施例の原画像 40 データスキャン方法は、原画像メモリ3内の画像データ を8×8画素を1ブロックとし、画像入力手段2がブロ ック単位に水平方向で一方向 (図中右方向) にスキャン して原画像データを読み取り、水平方向のブロックを読 み終えたら、次に、そのまま垂直方向 (図中下方向) に 1ブロック分移動して水平方向で逆方向(図中左方向) にスキャンして原画像データを読み取り、更に水平方向 のブロックを読み終えたら、そのまま垂直方向(図中下 方向)に1ブロック分移動して水平方向で一方向(図中 右方向)にスキャンして原画像データを読み取るように 50 原画像データスキャン方法における原画像データスキャ

6 なっている。これ以降の処理は、上記処理の繰り返しと なっている。

【0030】具体的に、図11を使って説明すると、原 画像データのブロック(Bi,j)について、B1,1,B 1,2, B1,3, …, B1,n とスキャンすると、次に、B 2,n, B2,n-1, …, B2,1 とスキャンし、更にB3,1 , B3,2, B3,3, …, B3,n とスキャンし、最終段 のブロックが偶数 (m:偶数) であれば、Bn,n, Bn, n-1, ..., Bn,1 とスキャンするものである。

【0031】第1の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法 によれば、例えば、図2の隣接しているブロック(a) とブロック(b)を連続して読み取るようスキャンする ものであるから、DCハフマン符号化時にブロック (a)のDC成分からブロック(b)のDC成分を引い たDC成分の差分値を小さな値にすることができ、従っ てそのDC成分の差分値で符号化することができるた め、圧縮対象のデータ量を抑えることができ、JPEG 方式の静止画像データの圧縮効率を向上させることがで きる効果がある。

【0032】尚、第1の実施例の原画像データスキャン 方法では、水平方向のスキャンを基本として、水平方向 のスキャンを順方向と逆方向に交互に行うようにしてい るが、垂直方向のスキャンを基本として、垂直方向のス キャンを順方向と逆方向に交互に行うようにしても構わ

【0033】図3に示すように、第2の実施例の原画像 データスキャン方法は、原画像メモリ3内の画像データ を8×8画素を1ブロックとし、画像入力手段2がブロ ック単位に図中左上から図中右下へと対角線方向に向け てその対角線を中心に左右にジグザグスキャンをしなが ら原画像データを読み取るようになっている。

【0034】具体的に、図11を使って説明すると、原 画像データのブロック(Bi,j)について、B1,1,B 1,2 , B2,1 , B3,1 , B2,2 , B1,3 , B1,4 , ..., Bn-1,n , Bn,n-1 , Bn,n の順でスキャンするもので ある。

【0035】第2の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法 によれば、例えば、図3の隣接しているブロック(c) とブロック(d)を連続して読み取るようスキャンする ものであるから、DCハフマン符号化時にブロック (c)のDC成分からブロック(d)のDC成分を引い たDC成分の差分値を小さな値にすることができ、従っ てそのDC成分の差分値で符号化することができるた め、圧縮対象のデータ量を抑えることができ、JPEG 方式の静止画像データの圧縮効率を向上させることがで きる効果がある。

【0036】次に、第1、第2の実施例の原画像データ スキャン方法を実現する原画像データスキャンプログラ ムの処理内容について説明する。まず、第1の実施例の ンプログラム1 a の処理の流れについて、図4,図11を用いて説明する。図4は、第1の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法を用いて、図11の原画像データをスキャンする原画像データスキャンプログラム1 a の処理の流れを示すフローチャート図である。尚、図4では、従来と同様にブロック数m, n は予め設定されているものとして説明している。

【0037】第1の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法では、図4に示すように、まずブロック数m, nを読み込み(200)、iに1を代入する(202)。次に、右方向にスキャンする処理として、jに1を代入し(210)、ブロックBi,jを読み込み(220)、jに1を加算して(222)、jがnより大きいかどうか判定し(224)、jがn以下の場合は処理220に戻って右方向へのスキャンを繰り返し、jがnより大きい場合は、iに1を加算する(230)。

【0038】そして、iがmより大きいかどうか判定し(232)、iがmより大きい場合は、原画像データのスキャン処理を終了し、iがm以下の場合は、左方向にスキャンする処理として、jにnを代入し(240)、ブロックBi,jを読み込み(250)、jから1を減算する(252)。次にjが1より小さいかどうか判定し(254)、jが1以上の場合は処理250に戻って左方向のスキャンを繰り返し、jが1より小さくなったら、iに1を加算する(260)。そして、iがmより大きいかどうか判定し(262)、iがm以下の場合は処理210に戻って次のブロックラインの右方向のスキャンを行い、iがmより大きい場合は原画像データのスキャン処理を終了する。

【0039】次に、第2の実施例の原画像データスキャ 30 ン方法における原画像データスキャンプログラム1bの処理の流れについて、図5,図11を用いて説明する。図5は、第2の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法を用いて、図11の原画像データをスキャンする原画像データスキャンプログラム1bの処理の流れを示すフローチャート図である。尚、図5では、従来と同様にブロック数m,nは予め設定されているものとして説明している。

【0040】第2の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法では、まず、ブロック数m, nを読み込み(300)、i, jに1を代入し(302)、ブロックBi,jを読み込む(304)。次に、右方向に1ブロックスキャンする処理として、jに1を加算して(310)、jとnとを比較し(312)、jがn以下の場合はブロックBi,jを読み込む(314)。

【0041】次に、iの値が1であるか判断し(316)、iが1の場合は、左下方向にスキャンする処理として、iに1を加算しjから1を減算し(320)、iとmとを比較し(322)、iがm以下の場合は、更にjと1とを比較し(324)、jが1以上の場合はプロ 50

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ックBi,j を読み込み (326)、処理320に戻って 左下方向へのスキャンを繰り返す。

【0042】尚、処理322において、iがmより大きい場合は、スキャン位置が原画像データの下端に達した場合であるから、iから1を減算しjに1を加算して(328)スキャン位置を戻し、処理310に飛んで右方向に1ブロックスキャンする処理に移る。

【0043】また、処理324において、jが1より小さい場合は、スキャン位置が原画像データの左端に達し 10 た場合であるから、iから1を引算しjに1を加算して (329)スキャン位置を戻し、処理340に飛んで下 方向に1ブロックスキャンする処理に移る。

【0044】そして、処理316において、iが1でない場合は、右上方向にスキャンする処理として、iから1を減算しjに1を加算し(330)、iと1とを比較し(332)、iが1以上の場合は更にjとnとを比較し(334)、jがn以下の場合はブロックBi,jを読み込み(336)、処理330に戻って右上方向へのスキャンを繰り返す。

20 【0045】尚、処理332において、iが1より小さい場合は、スキャン位置が原画像データの上端に達した場合であるから、iに1を加算しjから1を減算して(338)スキャン位置を戻し、処理310に飛んで右方向に1ブロックスキャンする処理に移る。

【0046】また、処理334において、jがnより大きい場合は、スキャン位置が原画像データの右端に達した場合であるから、iに1を加算しjから1を減算して(339)スキャン位置を戻し、処理340に飛んで下方向に1ブロックスキャンする処理に移る。

80 【0047】そして、処理312において、jがnより大きい場合は、スキャン位置が原画像データの右端に達した場合であるから、jから1を減算して(313)スキャン位置を戻し、次に下方向に1ブロックスキャンする処理として、iに1を加算し(340)、iとmとを比較し(342)、iがmより大きい場合は、原画像データのスキャン処理を終了しする。

【0048】一方、処理342において、iがm以下の場合は、ブロックBi,jを読み込み(344)、jが1の場合は、処理330に飛んで右上方向へスキャンする処理に移り、jが1でない場合は、処理320に飛んで左下方向へスキャンする処理に移る。

【0049】本実施例の原画像データスキャン方法によれば、相関関係のある隣接ブロックを図2、図3に示すスキャン方法で連続して読み取ってJPEG方式で圧縮処理を行うようにしているので、圧縮過程におけるDCハフマン符号化時にDC成分の差分値を小さな値にできるため、圧縮効率を向上させることができる効果がある。

[0050]

【発明の効果】請求項1記載の発明によれば、記憶部内

の原画像データのブロックを特定方向とその逆方向に交 互にスキャンして原画像データをブロック単位に読み取 る原画像データスキャン方法としているので、隣接して いるブロックを連続して読み取ることができ、隣接ブロ ック間で原画像データの差が小さいためにJPEG方式 による画像圧縮過程での符号化の際の圧縮効率を向上さ せることができる効果がある。

【0051】請求項2記載の発明によれば、記憶部内の原画像データのブロックを対角線方向に向けてその対角線を中心に左右にジグザグにスキャンして原画像データ 10をブロック単位に読み取る原画像データスキャン方法としているので、隣接しているブロックを連続して読み取ることができ、隣接ブロック間で原画像データの差が小さいためにJPEG方式による画像圧縮過程での符号化の際の圧縮効率を向上させることができる効果がある。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の一実施例に係る原画像データスキャン 手段の構成ブロック図である。

【図2】第1の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法を示す説明図である。

【図3】第2の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法を示す説明図である。

【図4】第1の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法を用いて、図11の原画像データをスキャンする原画像データスキャンプログラム1aの処理の流れを示すフローチャート図である。

【図5】第2の実施例の原画像データスキャン方法を用

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いて、図11の原画像データをスキャンする原画像データスキャンプログラム1bの処理の流れを示すフローチャート図である。

【図6】JPEG方式の画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置の構成ブロック図である。

【図7】DCT変換の説明図である。

【図8】ハフマン符号化の説明図である。

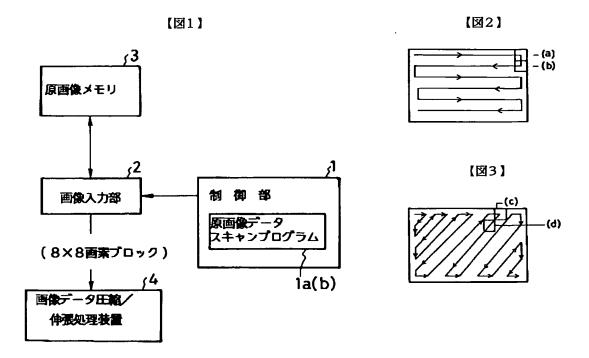
【図9】従来の原画像データスキャン手段の構成ブロック図である。

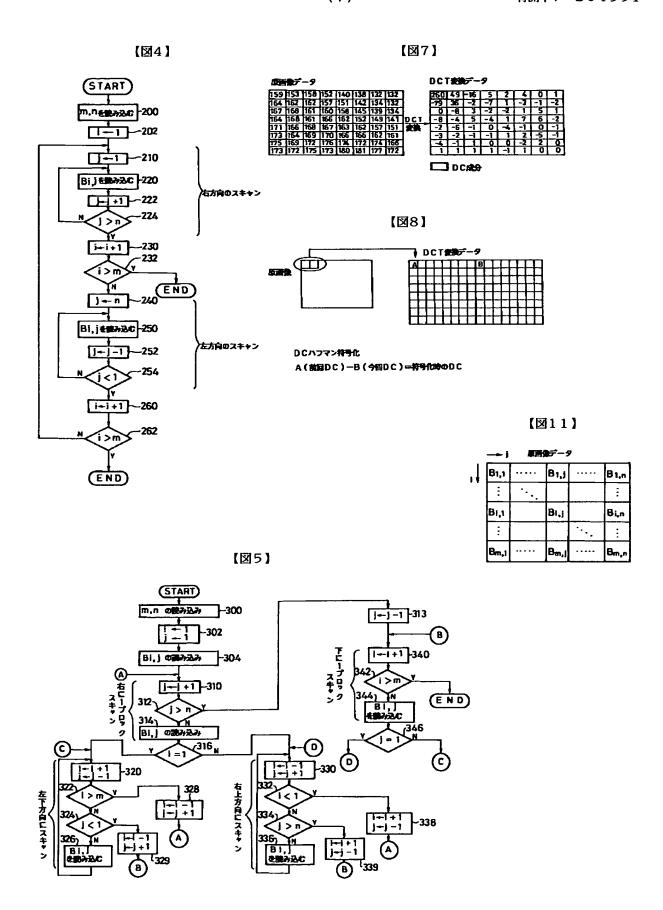
10 【図10】従来の原画像データスキャン方法を示す説明 図である。

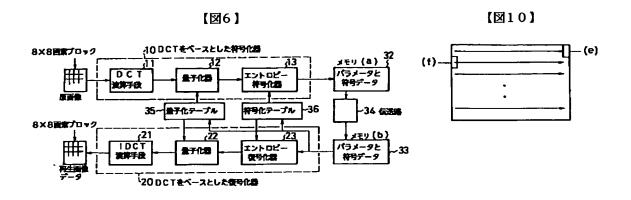
【図11】従来の原画像データスキャン方法でスキャンする原画像データのブロック構成を示す説明図である。 【図12】従来の原画像データスキャン方法を用いて図 11の原画像データをスキャンする原画像データスキャンプログラム1cの処理の流れを示すフローチャート図である。

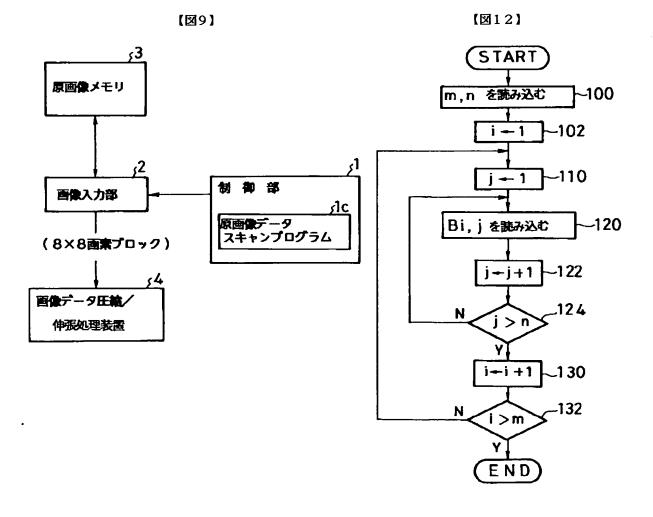
【符号の説明】

1…制御部、 1 a, 1 b, 1 c…原画像データスキャンプログラム 2…画像入力部、 3…原画像メモリ、 4…画像データ圧縮/伸張処理装置、 10…符号化器、 11…DCT演算手段、 12…量子化器、 13…エントロピー符号化器、 20…復号化器、 21…逆DCT演算手段、 22…量子化器、 23…エントロピー復号化器、 32…メモリ(a)、 33…メモリ(b)、 34…伝送路、 35…量子化テーブル、 36…符号化テーブル









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